

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 JAN 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Coignoul, et al.  
  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
  
Filed: Herewith  
  
For: Synthetic Bottle Stopper

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Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

BOX NEW APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.10	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on January 4, 2002, with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV044735487US, in an envelope addressed to: BOX NEW APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Date 1/4/02	Signature <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 - 10.

Please add the following claims to the application:

11. (New) A synthetic bottle stopper made from a plasticizer-free, foamed thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising:  
  - one or more thermoplastic elastomeric block copolymers;
  - one or more branched polyolefins having a melt flow index of from 0.1 to 200 dg/min (at 2.16 kg/190°C, determined in accordance with ASTM D 1238); and
  - a blowing agent.
12. (New) The synthetic bottle stopper of claim 11, wherein said thermoplastic elastomeric block copolymer is a styrenic elastomeric block copolymer.

A,

7/A  
P.W.  
10-15-02